

Senate Resolution 23

By: Senator Meyer von Bremen of the 12th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Scott Rigsby; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Scott Rigsby was a popular high school athlete, enjoying an active life as a
3 member of the football team until summer of 1986, when a tractor trailer collided with the
4 truck that he was riding on, claiming his right leg and badly mangling his left; and

5 WHEREAS, over the next year, he underwent 17 surgeries to reconstruct his "good" leg
6 which brought him tremendous pain and interfered with the simplest of daily activities. The
7 doctor said it would be 18 months before he could walk and that he would never be able to
8 run, but he took up swimming and mountain biking; and

9 WHEREAS, by 1998, he had broken many prostheses with his active lifestyle, but his "good"
10 leg was always slowing him down, so after having 25 surgeries over the first 12 years after
11 the accident he made the decision to amputate the mangled leg, and six weeks later he was
12 up and running and has not looked back; and

13 WHEREAS, incredibly, he started training in February, and in April he drove to Panama
14 City, Florida, to participate in a triathlon with a borrowed bike and no wetsuit. On race day
15 it was raining hard and the water was rough - not a great race to pick for your first triathlon,
16 but he finished and was addicted from that point on, participating in six sprints in seven
17 weeks; and

18 WHEREAS, Scott is currently the only double amputee in the United States running Olympic
19 distance triathlons on prosthetics, and on October 1 he became the first documented double
20 amputee in the world ever to finish a Half-Ironman on prosthetic legs, placing him well on
21 his way to completing his goal of becoming the first athlete to complete the full Ironman
22 Triathlon, which combines a 2.4 mile swim, a 112 mile bike ride, and a 26.2 mile run, while
23 running on two prosthetic legs; and

1 WHEREAS, Scott states that part of the reason that he races is to break down the barriers for
2 others who are double amputees and anyone who is physically challenged. He wants to be
3 a trailblazer for double amputees who seek to compete in triathlons and want to use
4 prosthetics; and

5 WHEREAS, Scott has touched the lives of many, not only due to the harsh reality of what
6 happened but because of his unwavering faith and consistently positive attitude in the face
7 of adversity. Scott has shown intestinal fortitude and courage that many cannot imagine and
8 has poured himself into helping others, sharing what he learned on his difficult road to
9 recovery to help others through challenges in their own lives.

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
11 recognize and commend Scott Rigsby for his fortitude and determination in the face of
12 adversity and for his inspiration to others.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
14 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Scott Rigsby.